

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) Floorboards comprising a surface layer and a core, for making a floating flooring, which floorboards are mechanically lockable and ~~which along their edge portions have pairs of opposing connectors for locking similar, adjoining floorboards to each other both vertically and horizontally,~~

wherein each floorboard has an edge and an engageable edge,  
wherein the edge is lockable to the engageable edge on a similar, adjoining floorboard,

wherein the edge and engageable edge comprise a pair of connectors for locking the edge and engageable edge to each other vertically and in a direction perpendicular to the edge, and

wherein the surface layer comprises flexible resilient fibers.

2. (Original) Floorboards as claimed in claim 1, wherein the core of the floorboard contains wood fibers.

3. (Original) Floorboards as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surface layer is made of needle felt.

4. (Original) Floorboards as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surface layer has a density below 400 kg/m<sup>3</sup>.

5. (Original) Floorboards as claimed in claim 1, wherein the floorboards are rectangular or square and that two opposite sides can be joined by inward angling, whereby upper adjoining joint edge portions are in contact with each other.

6. (Original) Floorboards as claimed in claim 5, wherein the upper adjoining joint edge portions of the floorboards are compressible and can be changed in shape in connection with joining.

7. (Original) Floorboards as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surface layer consists of flexible resilient fibers.

8. (Withdrawn) A method for manufacturing floorboards with a surface layer and a core, for making a floating flooring, which floorboards are mechanically lockable and which along their four edge portions have pairs of opposing connectors for locking adjoining floorboards to each other both vertically and horizontally, for providing a floating floor with mechanically lockable floorboards, the method comprises:

joining a surface layer of flexible and resilient fibers to a wood-fiber-based core to form a floor element,

linearly displacing the floor element and a set of tools for machining the joint edges of the floor element, to provide at least part of the upper joint edges of the floor panel.

9. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the set of tools consists of a set of knives and a set of rotary milling tools.

10. (Currently Amended) A floorboard, for providing a floating flooring, the floorboard having a surface layer and a core, the floorboard, ~~along at least one pair of opposing edge portions, having pairs of opposing connectors for locking said floorboard to a similar, adjoining floorboard both vertically and horizontally,~~ has an edge and a engageable edge,

wherein the edge is lockable to the engageable edge on a similar, adjoining floorboard,

wherein the edge and engageable edge comprise a pair of connectors for locking the edge and engageable edge to each other vertically and in a direction perpendicular to the edge, and

wherein the surface layer consists substantially of flexible resilient fibers.

11. (Original) The floorboard as claimed in claim 10, wherein a second pair of opposing edge portions have pairs of opposing connectors for locking said floorboard to a similar, adjoining floorboard vertically or horizontally.

12. (Original) The floorboard as claimed in claim 10, wherein a second pair of opposing edge portions have pairs of opposing connectors for locking said floorboard to a similar, adjoining floorboard vertically and horizontally.

13. (Withdrawn) A method for manufacturing floorboards with a surface layer and a core, for making a floating flooring, which floorboards are mechanically lockable and which along at least one pair of opposing edge portions have pairs of opposing connectors for locking adjoining floorboards to each other both vertically and horizontally, for providing a floating floor with mechanically lockable floorboards, the method comprising:

joining a surface layer comprising flexible and resilient fibers to a wood-fiber-based core to form a floor element,

linearly displacing the floor element relative to a set of tools for machining the joint edges of the floor element, to provide at least part of the upper joint edges of the floorboard.